

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 29, 1858.

Business Notice.

As the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in the terms, will be conducted strictly on a cash basis, all accounts for the collection of subscriptions for the Union are discontinued. No payments should be made to Agents after this date, except to Mr. W. C. Lippincott, Jr., who is authorized to make collections in Baltimore, Maryland, and Virginia.

The foregoing notice is not intended to include any agents or collectors who may have been employed by the Union in this city, but only those who have performed such service in other parts of the country.

THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN RACE FOR EMPIRE ON THIS CONTINENT.

It has long been a subject of remark that while our own domain on this continent has filled up with an increasing rapidity, and new and great States have grown up to be in a few years under our constitution, while centuries have been requisite for the purpose in other parts of the world, and even in this when our country was yet in colonial dependence upon Great Britain—the immense British domain north of us upon the same continent, though enjoying all the advantages and facilities for rapid development which belonged to us, except our political institutions, have remained for the most part, until now, a wild, uninhabited desert.

Great as the difference of institutions may be under which the two contiguous parts of the Continent have remained, and undoubtedly superior as ours are to those of British America in the impulse they give to individual enterprise and adventure and to political and social development; yet it would be rash and empirical to conclude that the existing disparity between the two regions is altogether due to the different political institutions under which they have remained. We have no doubt that it is perfectly just to ascribe the low social and industrial condition of countries south of us to the feebleness and decay of their political institutions; but we are not sure it would be legitimate to attribute the backwardness in development of the British dominions on our north, exclusively, or in chief part, to influences like these. It is not to be denied that the Canadas are less prosperous and vigorous than the States; but we think it probable that the fact is chiefly due to the severe climate and the more unpropitious seasons that there prevail, and we might add, somewhat also to the French extraction of the people; for we think it cannot be successfully denied, that the French race is better adapted to conditions of society such as are found in old and densely-peopled countries, like France, than to the hardships, privations and vicissitudes of colonial life. The history of colonization in the New World has abundantly proved that the Spanish race is immensely inferior to the Anglo-Saxon in capacity for planting new and flourishing empires. The history of North America has just as decidedly proved that the French race are very far inferior to the Anglo-Saxon in this particular; for whereas France once held dominion in a grand semi-circle of country embracing Canada, the country of the great lakes, the entire Mississippi valley and Texas, it now does not own a foot of land upon the entire continent.

The fact is thus established that the ultimate dominion of all North America and the West Indies must soon belong to the Anglo-Saxon race. The only problem remaining to be solved for each district is, whether it shall belong to that portion of the race which still swears by the crown of Great Britain, or to that which is engaged in extending the free institutions of the American Union. Reasoning from the past history of the race on this continent—a history which shows a long career of feebleness, poverty, and tedious and doubtful development while under the colonial dominion, and of sudden and stupendous outgrowth and expansion soon after the yoke was thrown off—a history which presents the almost stationary Canadas and the wild wastes of British America as the fruits of one class of institutions; and the thirty-two States of this Union with their flourishing agriculture, universal commerce, incalculable wealth, their vast railroad systems, their military power, their physical resources of every name, their mighty intellectual energy and activity, as the fruits of the other;—we say, reasoning from the past history of the Anglo-Saxons on this continent, it would be very natural to conclude that the great acquisitions of empire yet to be made upon it would surely be by that branch of the race which under our federal constitution has already succeeded in establishing thirty-three States, two of which are planted upon the Pacific Ocean.

We must not forget, however, the circumstances which have controlled and retarded the development of British empire on this continent. Among the most influential of these has been the territorial monopoly which has been enjoyed for two centuries by the great Hudson's Bay Company in all the British dominions without the limits of the Canadas—a monopoly which enabled that company, as it were, to place four hundred thousand square miles of territory, embracing some of the finest lands in North America, as a British landed proprietor would do his game preserves in England. "No thoroughfare here," "No admission on any kind of business." Monstrous as it seems to us that a few men should have been allowed, for two centuries, for the mere preservation, for their own use, of the fur and skins of wild beasts running wild upon it, an exclusive, arbitrary, and absolute right of user, to this large and valuable portion of the earth's surface, while millions of their countrymen were stifled for bread and frantic for the want of employment; yet the fact has been of two hundred years' duration. Nothing could more strikingly exhibit the difference which exists in the spirit of the institutions of England and the United States than the temper in which the two peoples would respectively look upon such a monopoly.

The territorial monopoly of the great Hudson's Bay Company has at last, however, fallen; and acts have passed the British Parliament establishing colonial governments in the hitherto closed domains of British America. The fall of the great land monopoly will mark an important era in the development of British empire on this continent; and now for the first time will be witnessed a fair trial of the relative capacity of the institutions of the two countries for the development and expansion of empire. We copy an interesting article on this subject from the London Press:

A large and steady demand for the skins of beaver and fox and opium setting in throughout Europe, it was thought necessary to confer exclusive power and privileges on a company, in order to keep a large tract of the country in a state of thorough idleness, and through the

necessities of fur and the peculiarities of luxury and climate, to bar the inland of civilization. Strange as the incident may appear, it is no less a historical fact. For two centuries the Hudson's Bay Company have occupied a vast territory, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, in extent almost as large as Europe, and have there done their best to preserve "foxes and beavers." We do not think that any blame ought to attach to the Hudson's Bay Company. The fur-bearing animals were a sort of fiat cause to be in fact, it was a society of trappers and traders *feras bellicias*, since the days of the Merry Monarch. The company has done so for 150 years, and might have done so for 150 years longer if it had not been for the "accident" of gold. That powerful metal is likely to open the Hudson's Bay territory, 400,000 square miles of which appear not to have been meant for fur-bearing animals and a fur-seeking company exclusively as much as for mankind in general. Opposite political institutions are in blind conjunction on this point. Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Gladstone are agreed that the old signs of the Hudson's Bay Company, "No Thoroughfare" and "No admission on any kind of business," should be removed, and an eager and industrious immigrant world admitted. The debate upon the bill for giving a political organization to the new gold district, and the subsequent discussion upon Mr. Roebuck's resolutions respecting the Hudson's Bay Company, are a full of significance. On both occasions the new colonial secretary handled the matter in a spirit of wise and large state-manship. Without committing himself to Mr. Roebuck's resolutions, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton indicated the policy of the government with respect to the present occupiers and the aboriginal possessors of the soil in words no less significant than they were eloquent.

"It is my sincere wish and hope that arrangements may be effected in a spirit of reasonable conciliation to all parties concerned, and that we may thus lay the foundation of a civilized community upon the principles of humanity towards the red men, and of honor and honesty towards the white, which our civilization should carry with it, wherever it extends, as the colonizers of old carried along with them a fragment of their native earth, and a light from the altar of their council-chambers."

Upon these broad and somewhat old-fashioned principles a bill has been introduced, and has passed a third reading in the House of Lords, for the organization of a colony upon which her Majesty has been pleased to confer the title of British Columbia. The bill provides for the inclusion of the colony in the State of industry, surrounded by rather wild and belated neighbors, have most need of the tutelage of a strong executive government. It is, in fact, a bill to obviate the necessity of a vigilance committee, or the establishment of a band of regulators, or any other popular mode of provisional government. The bill creates a governor for four years, to be entrusted with full and absolute powers, dependent, however, upon the will of the Crown, who may, if it think fit, at any time establish a free government and more liberal institutions. Power is also conferred upon the Crown at any time, upon the joint address of the two houses of Vancouver's island, to annex that island to the new colony. Thus the nucleus of a group of colonies has been formed, in which we may see, as Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton forcibly expressed it, "a rampart against any hostile inroads from the American frontier, and an essential ark, as it were, to that viaduct by which we hope one day to connect the harbors of Vancouver with the Gulf of St. Lawrence." Part of the unsettled territory has been offered to Canada, and in the event of its rejection by herself, it, such part of the territory which seems to invite the labors of men and oxen we shall at once take to our own hands, grove with railroads, and intersect with canals, leaving only the colder part of the earth to the allotted work of the Hudson's Bay Company, and to be a hunting-ground for red men—"a portion for foxes."

THE CINCINNATI PLATFORM IN NO DANGER.

The Richmond Enquirer, in an ill-considered reply to our remarks the other day, in which we showed that Judge Douglas would not assist in procuring from Congress legislation for the protection of slave property in the Territories, says:

"We sincerely expected it would have the hardihood to attempt to make a point against the senator for standing by and predicting his cause upon a literal and verbatim quotation from the Cincinnati platform. Judge Douglas's answer to Lincoln's question of his repudiation of the 'Union,' is: 'I answer him: it is a fundamental article of the democratic creed that there shall be non-interference, non-intervention by Congress in all the States and Territories.' . . . The democratic party have always stood by that great principle of non-interference, non-intervention by Congress with slavery in States and Territories alike," and he says further: "I stand on that platform."

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The Enquirer had called upon Congress to "interfere for the protection of slavery in the Territories" by new legislation auxiliary to the Nebraska-Kansas bill; and had strongly intimated the belief—that Judge Douglas would be the foremost man in that body to take part in the movement. It so happened that Judge Douglas's competitor in Illinois had just propounded to him the inquiry whether he would do so; and Judge Douglas had replied, point blank, that he would not, because he stood upon the doctrine of non-interference, non-intervention by Congress in territorial affairs. We cited this declaration of Judge Douglas not to complain of it *per se*, not to question its unsoundness, but to show that Judge Douglas had no intention of responding to the Enquirer's call upon Congress "to interfere for the protection of slavery in the Territories."

Judge Douglas had declared that the people of the Territories had the power under the Nebraska bill, notwithstanding the Dred Scott decision, to exclude slavery. The Enquirer had said, on seeing this declaration, that this was true, and hence the necessity of new legislation by Congress to protect the institution. We had replied to the Enquirer that this might be so, but that Judge Douglas would not give any aid in procuring such legislation. Sure enough, in a few days, we produced a declaration from Judge Douglas, emphatically asserting that he still held to the doctrine of non-interference, non-intervention by Congress. Whereupon, the Enquirer, instead of complaining of Judge Douglas's doctrine that the territorial authorities may exclude, but Congress may not interfere or intervene to protect, got angry with us for laying before it Judge Douglas's true position.

NOMINATION OF MR. HATCH.

We are advised by telegraph that the Hon. Isaac T. Hatch, member of the House of Representatives from the Buffalo district of New York, was yesterday nominated by acclamation for re-election to Congress. This is a merited tribute to the unyielding democracy of Mr. Hatch, and a recognition of the fidelity with which he sought to advance the interests of the constituency he represented here last winter. We earnestly hope that the nomination may be ratified by his triumphant election in November next.

The New York Express states that it has "the best personal authority for saying the Nicaraguan minister in this country has neither signed nor negotiated any treaty with Great Britain," such as recently published by the New York Times. The Express alleges that it is the country in a state of thorough idleness, and through the

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Two Weeks Later from California.
New York, Sept. 28.—The steamship Moses Taylor, from San Francisco, arrived this evening with the California mails and passengers of the 6th inst. She brings about \$1,600,000 in gold and 300 passengers.
The California State elections resulted in favor of the administration by 6,000 to 10,000 majority. The Legislature is largely democratic. In San Francisco the people's ticket for local officers was elected, and also republican members of the legislature.
The news from Fraser river was unsatisfactory. The river was too high to allow profitable working of the mines. Business there was dull, and property in Victoria was depressed. Numbers of miners and speculators had departed for California.

Very rich diggings have been discovered in Shasta county, and miners were realizing \$100 per day.
A duel had taken place between George Ten Johnson, an administration editor, and W. S. Ferguson, ex-State senator, a Douglasite. The latter was shot in the thigh.
The government had indicted suit at San Francisco for the value of \$100,000 of stolen goods, valued at millions of dollars. It is charged that they are held under a forged title.

By this arrival Oregon dates of the 21st August are received. Lieutenant Allen, with 16 men, had defeated a body of Indians on the Yakima river, capturing 70 prisoners and a large number of horses. Lieutenant Allen was mortally wounded and died the next day.
There is a large movement in rice in the San Francisco market, and Carolina rice had advanced 40 per cent. There was also a speculative movement in spirits turpentine, which had advanced to 90 cents per gallon.
Gen. Larned had arrived in Costa Rica.
Othello, elected governor of the State of Panama.
Nicaragua remained quiet.

It is rumored that San Salvador was about to invade Honduras.
The Saranac was at Aspinwall, and the Merrimack and Decatur at Callao.

Gen. Larned was at Panama that Peru was about declaring war against Ecuador.
There had been an attempted revolution in Venezuela. Gen. Larned was sent to occupy La Guayra, but found himself without armed soldiers, though nearly 1,000 men were collected. He turned back, and with several hundred liberals, was arrested. Gen. Sanlleite, with the Spanish and Brazilian ministers, had started from Caracas for La Guayra, and telegraphic despatches from the former place gave hopes of a speedy and satisfactory settlement.

The Austria.

New York, Sept. 28.—The two young ladies Keltner, passengers by the Austria, are not among the saved.

The Slaver Trial.

Boston, Sept. 28.—Captain Townsend, of the Echo, has been removed to jail in default of \$3,000 bail, for trial at the October term, when the question of jurisdiction will be argued.

Large Flouring Mill Burnt.

RICHMOND, Sept. 28.—McGruder's extensive flour mill, near this city, was totally destroyed by fire this morning. Loss \$25,000, with an insurance in New York and Richmond.

The Fever at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—The deaths from fever on Saturday were 67. The total for the week is 445.

Markets.

New York, Sept. 28.—Cotton has advanced—sales of 3,000 bales; uplands 13, new crop. Flour is heavy—sales of 1,500 barrels; State, \$5 20 a \$5 35; Ohio, \$5 80 a \$5 95; southern, \$5 50 a \$5 75. Wheat is buoyant—sales of 25,000 bushels; red, \$1 20 a \$1 25; white, \$1 40 a \$1 50. Corn is firm—sales of 41,000 bushels; yellow, 96c. Beef is quiet at \$14 a \$14 25. Pork is unsettled—mess \$16 75 a \$16 95; prime \$14 75 a \$15. Lard is quiet at 11 1/2c. Whiskey is quiet at 23 c. Sugar is steady at 7 1/2c. Coffee is steady at 10 1/2c. Molasses is quiet—Orleans 4c. Spirits of turpentine closed firm at 52 1/2c. Rosin is firm and unchanged. Rice is firm at 3 1/2c.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

New York, (Monday night), September 27, 1858.

Unhappily, my conjecture that the burning steamer would prove to be the Austria, from Hamburg and Southampton, has proved to be true. The barque Lotus, from Liverpool, arrived at Halifax this morning with twelve of the sixty-seven surviving passengers of the ill-fated ship, and brings partial details of the frightful catastrophe by which five hundred human beings perished in the most frightful manner.

The fire was first discovered bursting from the steamer on the 13th inst., when the ship was in latitude 45 deg. 01 min., and longitude 41 deg. 30 min. Immediately afterwards the flames were discovered amidships, bursting through the skylights, and burning aft with awful rapidity. An attempt was then made to lower a boat, but it was too late. The crew, who were crowded on the fore-deck, were crushed under the screw; and a second boat was launched and swamped from the crowd of people which rushed into it in their frantic haste to escape from the fire. Numbers, unable to escape from the cabins, were suffocated by the smoke, and those who succeeded in gaining the deck, were crowded to the fore-deck, where the devouring elements consumed many and drove others into the sea to escape from the flames. In half an hour from the time the affrighted passengers rushed to the poop, not a soul was to be seen there. By the exception of sixty-seven picked men, who had been ordered to the fore-deck, the ship had perished in the flames of a watery grave. Of the saved there were only six females. The first and third officers escaped, both badly burnt. The office of the Hamburg Steamship Company has been thronged since morning with a painfully anxious and excited crowd of the friends and relatives of the Austria's passengers.

I am happy, after giving such a painful detail as the foregoing, to be able to give the readers of the Union a piece of intelligence which will prove gratifying to all of them. General Scott, the venerable and respected commander-in-chief of the army, is rapidly recovering from his recent severe accident, and is now able to sit up the greater part of the day. He is expected to be able to take part in the great four-mile race on Friday or Saturday.

The great four-mile race upon the Fashion course, which was postponed on Friday in consequence of the rain storm, came off to-day. The weather was all that could be desired. The course was crowded with spectators of every class and degree. Shortly after two o'clock the start was made. The second race was a short prize—namely, Nicholas I. Sue Washington, now called Lizzy Macdonald, and Tar River. The first heat was won by the last-mentioned horse, aided by the well known jockey Gilpatrick. The heat was very closely contested, Nicholas being second, and the mare third. The second heat was won by Tar River, who was more exciting race than the first. The North Carolina horse and his imperial rival went off at score from the post, closely followed by the favorite Sue, and resulted in favor of Nicholas, after a severe struggle on the post, the mare being distanced, owing to a strange mistake on the part of the rider of Sue Washington, who pulled her up at the end of the third mile, believing that he had run the four miles. Time of second heat: 7 min. 35 sec.

The race was now narrowed down to a match between Tar River and Nicholas, the excitement was intense, and the friends of the two horses betted freely on their favorite. The deciding race was won by Nicholas after a hot race during the four miles. Time: 7 min. 50 sec. Tar River was much admired for his speed and bottom, and Gilpatrick's riding was universally applauded.

Postmaster General Brown was in consultation to-day with the committee of the chamber of commerce on the removal of the post office. The committee were held with closed doors, but we understand that nothing but informal conversation took place, and nothing like a definite decision was arrived at. The Postmaster heard the remonstrance of the merchants against the Broadway theatre location and will consider it.

The money market is very dull, and rates are, perhaps, a trifle lower than on Monday. Foreign exchange is very firm, with a fair demand for the London drafts. Rates are steady at 5.12 1/2 a 5.11 1/2.

The cash transactions for the week ending to-day at the custom-house and sub-treasury have been as follows:

	CUSTOM-HOUSE.	SUB-TREASURY.
September 21.....	\$122,597 90	\$275,956 54
Do 22.....	93,529 70	484,738 55
Do 23.....	105,958 88	301,619 79
Do 24.....	54,542 54	65,081 12
Do 25.....	97,977 02	185,946 79
Do 26.....	95,704 72	140,467 59
Total for the week.....	\$555,368 73	1,286,719 83
Balance in sub-treasury morning of Sept. 21.....	\$12,259 79	\$2,509,971 84
ADAMS.		

POLITICS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

(Letter from the interior of the State.)
SARATOGA, Sept. 25, 1858.

To the Editors of the Washington Union:

I attended the late democratic State convention at Syracuse as a delegate from this county, and took an active part in its proceedings. You have doubtless seen an account of our transactions, and have read the resolutions, and observed the manner in which we disposed of the various questions before us. There have been some insinuations in some quarters that there was in the convention a feeling in favor of Douglas; and that, as between him and the administration, the sympathy of the convention was with the former. There is no truth in this insinuation. A large portion of the convention was composed of men advanced in life, and who had long done service in the democratic ranks, and who had nothing to do but to desire the triumph of sound principles. The convention responded truly to the feelings of the democracy of the State in pledging their support to the administration of Mr. Buchanan. No resolution having any tendency to sustain Mr. Douglas in the course he was pleased to adopt last winter could have been adopted had it been offered; but none such was offered. The convention intended that the campaign this fall should be conducted on State issues, and should have nothing to do with the presidential aspirations of any man in 1860. The ticket is a strong one, and will command the united support of the party. My opinion is that it will be elected.

The controversies of New York and Brooklyn are of a local character, and, even if not settled, will not injure us on the State ticket. The various factions in those cities will unite on the State ticket, whatever may be their course with respect to their local nominations.

The dispensation of the patronage of the general government to this State will be attended with difficulties. It is almost unavoidable that the President should make some mistakes. Mr. Buchanan has doubtless made some, but fewer than were made by his predecessor, and not more than could be expected. There is a very good feeling towards him in the party generally, and his administration will be strongly supported. I shall, I think, return a larger number of members of Congress than the democracy had in the last House from this State.

It is generally thought that a convention will be called to revise and amend the constitution. Our convention advised that the black republicans, under existing circumstances, to nominate a full ticket, and the convention adjourned without transacting any other business.—Argus.

ERIE COUNTY.—The democratic convention of this county met in the city of Erie on the 21st inst., and placed in nomination for Congress Wm. A. Galbraith, esq., and for the State senate Benjamin Grant, esq.—both gentlemen of the highest standing and possessed of much ability. In the campaign of 1856, Mr. Fisher took an active part, and as a speaker, both in his own and other counties, did good service for Mr. Buchanan and the democratic cause. He will be sustained nobly by the people of his district, and will make an excellent representative in the Congress of the nation.—Argus.

TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.—The conference of the district, composed of the counties of Monroe, Columbia, Lawrence, and Orleans, was held at Orleans, on Monday last, for the purpose of electing a delegate to the State convention, and a speaker, both in his own and other counties, did good service for Mr. Buchanan and the democratic cause. He will be sustained nobly by the people of his district, and will make an excellent representative in the Congress of the nation.—Argus.

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